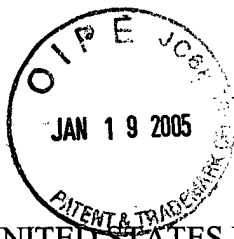


IFW

03560.003363.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: F. Hiteshew
SHOJI NISHIDA, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 1765
Application No.: 10/676,094	)	
	:	
Filed: October 2, 2003	)	
	:	
For: LIQUID PHASE GROWTH	)	
METHOD FOR SILICON	:	
CRYSTAL,	)	
MANUFACTURING METHOD	:	
FOR SOLAR CELL AND	)	
LIQUID PHASE GROWTH	:	January 18, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during a telephonic interview conducted on December 6, 2004. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that a restriction requirement was forthcoming.

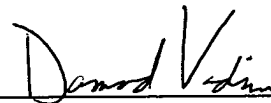
In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action dated December 20, 2004, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the Group I claims, namely Claims 1 to 22. The restriction requirement is, however, traversed.

Traversal is on the ground that there would not be undue burden in examining the two groups of claims in a single application. In particular, MPEP § 808 makes clear that in order to require restriction between independent or distinct inventions, reasons for insisting upon a restriction requirement, such as undue burden, must also be shown. In the present instance, it is not believed that there would be an undue burden in examining the claims of Groups I and II in a single application, since the two groups of claims are not so different as would require a burden on the Examiner that is significantly beyond that of the normal burdens of examination.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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